

Message Text

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C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 234041

FOLLOWING SENT ACTION USMISSION NATO 29 NOV.

QUOTE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 234041

E.O. 11652: GDS 12-31-79
TAGS: MCAP, NATO
SUBJECT: COMMUNIQUE FOR DECEMBER 7 DPC MINISTERIAL

REF: USNATO 5715

1. TO EXPEDITE CONSIDERATION OF POSITIONS WE WISH INCLUDED
IN COMMUNIQUE YOU SHOULD BE GUIDED BY POINTS SET FORTH
BELOW.

2. MINISTERS:

- DISCUSSED CANDIDLY THE STRATEGY AND PURPOSES OF THE
ALLIANCE.
- REVIEWED THE IMPLICATIONS AND LESSONS FOR NATO OF THE
RECENT MIDDLE EAST CONFLICT.

- WELCOMED THE BEGINNING OF THE MBFR NEGOTIATIONS AND
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EMPHASIZED THE IMPORTANCE OF DEVELOPING A MORE STABLE

RELATIONSHIP FOUNDED ON THE PRINCIPLE OF UNDIMINISHED SECURITY.

- OBSERVED THAT DETENTE CAN BE SAFELY PURSUED ONLY UNDER THE UMBRELLA OF AN ADEQUATE WESTERN DEFENSE POSTURE.

- REAFFIRMED THAT A FUNDAMENTAL PURPOSE OF NATO FORCES IS TO DETER ATTACK OR ANY OTHER MILITARY OR POLITICAL PRESSURES AGAINST THE MEMBERS OF NATO.

-- STRESSED THAT FULFILLMENT OF THIS PURPOSE DEPENDS ON MAINTAINING A BALANCE OF CONVENTIONAL AS WELL AS NUCLEAR FORCES VIS-A-VIS THE WARSAW PACT.

- NOTED THAT, AS A RESULT OF INCREASED DEFENSE EFFORTS BY THE EUROPEAN ALLIES DURING THE PAST FOUR YEARS, AS WELL AS THE MAINTENANCE AND IMPROVEMENT OF US FORCES IN EUROPE, NATO HAS TODAY A SUBSTANTIAL CONVENTIONAL CAPABILITY VIS-A-VIS THE WARSAW PACT, WHICH MINISTERS STRESSED SHOULD BE FURTHER IMPROVED BY ADDITIONAL SELECTIVE EFFORTS.

- NOTED THAT THE BALANCE OF CONVENTIONAL FORCES COULD BE SWIFTLY UPSET BY UNILATERAL REDUCTIONS IN NATO DEFENSE EFFORTS, AND THAT THE MAINTENANCE OF THE BALANCE DEPENDS ON THE CONTINUED MODERNIZATION, READINESS, AND COHESIVENESS OF NATO FORCES.

- DECIDED TO UNDERTAKE NEW COMBINED EFFORTS TO ACHIEVE A MORE EFFECTIVE USE OF DEFENSE RESOURCES WITHIN THE ALLIANCE.

- IN THIS CONNECTION:

-- AGREED THAT DEFINITIVE PROGRAMS SHOULD BE ESTABLISHED TO PROVIDE INCREASED SHELTERING OF AIR-CRAFT, IMPROVED ANTI-TANK WEAPONS, AND ESTABLISHMENT OF SUFFICIENT WAR RESERVE STOCKS.

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-- NOTED A REPORT BY THE AD HOC GROUP ON SPECIALIZATION CONTAINING CERTAIN RECOMMENDATIONS FOR THE RE-EQUIPMENT OF DUTCH FORCES.

-- AGREED IN PRINCIPLE TO GREATER SPECIALIZATION OF FORCES AMONG THE ALLIES AND DIRECTED THE EXECUTIVE WORKING GROUP TO UNDERTAKE FURTHER WORK ON SPECIALIZATION.

-- NOTED THE STATUS OF DISCUSSION IN THE INFRA-
STRUCTURE COMMITTEE AND THE PERMANENT DPC
REGARDING THE SIZE AND COST SHARING OF THE NEW
(1975-79) INFRASTRUCTURE PROGRAM, AND AGREED THIS
MATER MUST BE RESOLVED BY FEBRUARY,1974.

-- WELCOMED THE US REAFFIRMATION OF ITS INTENTION
TO MAINTAIN CURRENT US FORCE LEVELS IN EUROPE
PENDING THE CONCLUSION OF MBFR AGREEMENTS, BUT
TOOK NOTE OF THE FACT THAT RECENT US LEGISLATION

MAY REQUIRE THE REDUCTION OF US FORCE LEVELS IN
EUROPE UNLESS SATISFACTORY AGREEMENTS ARE REACHED ON
BURDENSHARING.

-- ANNOUNCED THEIR DECISION TO UNDERTAKE SPECIFIC MEA-
SURES TO OFFSET THE US DEFENSE EXPENDITURES ENTERING
THE INTERNATIONAL BALANCE OF PAYMENTS IN NATO EUROPE,
INCLUDING COMPENSATION TO THE US FOR THE ADDITIONAL
COSTS OF MAINTAINING ITS FORCES IN EUROPE RATHER
THAN THE US.

-- AGREED IN PRINCIPLE THAT US COST SHARES FOR THE CIVIL
AND MILITARY BUDGETS SHOULD BE REDUCED SUBSTANTIALLY,
AND THAT THE US COST SHARE FOR THE CENTRAL EUROPEAN
PIPELINE DEFICIT SHOULD BE ELIMINATED.

-- DIRECTED THE EWG TO INQUIRE INTO THE STAFFING OF ALL
NATO HEADQUARTERS WITH THE AIM OF ACHIEVING A 10-30
PERCENT REDUCTION IN HEADQUARTERS STAFFS DURING 1974.

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NOTE: WE WOULD ANTICIPATE ADDING AN APPROPRIATE RECOG-
NITION OF ANY NEW EUROGROUP INITIATIVE, SUCH AS
PROPOSED IN PARA 12 OF REFTEL. KISSINGER UNQUOTE
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